

920584-905994



IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMDT A
3-6-03 #3
Witcher

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF

Mark Robert Gibson

SERIAL NO. 09/410,316

FILED: 1 October 1999

FOR: Establishing Connections Across a
Communications Network

)
) Examiner: Melanie Jagannathan
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) Group Art Unit No. 2666
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231," on February 26, 2003.

Name of person signing Jennifer J. Ramirez
Signature _____

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF 27 NOVEMBER 2002

Honorable Director of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 05 2003

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir

In response to the Office Action of 27 November 2002, it is requested that the application be amended as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 6 and 19 as set forth below:

- A1
B1
1. (Amended) A method of establishing a connection between two endpoints in a communications network, said communications network comprising a management layer and a physical layer; said physical layer comprising said endpoints and a plurality of nodes interconnected by links and said management layer comprising a